

*area 111*

~~TOP SECRET~~

27 February 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDI

SUBJECT : Problems Illustrated by Quemoy and Lebanon

This paper looks superficially reasonable but the Board Assistants still churlishly feel that most of the problems raised are either operational or imponderable, and will hardly serve as a useful stimulus to the NSC. However, we've stopped fighting the problem.

Question 2 calls for review of our Offshore Islands policy. Amen if NSC willing to tackle it. Could also add that Lebanese operation (aside from proving that we stand by our commitments) indicates futility of trying to stem tide of Arab nationalism by military means. What did it buy us?

Question 3 is dragged by the heels. Of course, our allies have very limited capabilities.

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Question 4. The answer is obvious; we must consider the political implications of deploying nuclear weapons every time we do so.

Questions 5-8 are sensible, but not questions. They are really self-evident statements of fact and don't need much discussion.

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